

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUANDA 00672 191934Z

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2391

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AO

SUBJ: "ALL THE PREROGATIVES OF AUTONOMY"

REF: LUANDA A-102

1. ALTHOUGH UNUTTERED PUBLICLY (OR AT LEAST UNQUOTED IN PARESS) DURING DEC. 4-10 VISIT OF MIN OVERSEAS REBELLO DE SOUSA TO ANGOLA, WORD "AUTONOMY" SURFACED IN MINISTER'S DEC 16 INTERVIEW WITH TWO ANGOLAN JOURNALISTS IN BEIRA (MOZAMBIQUE). INTERVIEW QUOTED REBELLO DE SOUSA AS SAYING BEST WAY TO ASSURE NATIONAL UNITY IS TO GRANT EACH PORTUGUESE TERRITORY "ALL PREROGATIVES OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND POLITICAL AUTONOMY CONTAINED IN THE CONSTITUTION ITSELF."

2. ALTHOUGH BOTH THEIR CORRESPONDENTS PARTICIPATED IN INTERVIEW, COVERAGE BY THE TWO LUANDA DAILIES DIFFERED MARKEDLY WITH ONLY MORE INDEPENDENT "PROVINCIA" (DEC 18 ISSUE) CARRYING DIRECT QUOTE "PREROGATIVES OF AUTONOMY." "PROVINCIA", MAKING IT LEAD STORY, HEADLINED AUTONOMY QUOTE WHILE "DIARIO" USED OTHER, INNOCUOUS LEAD. (MOST OF INTERVIEW AS PRINTED IN BOTH DAILIES TAKEN UP BY MINISTER ENTHUSIASM OVER GROWTH AND YOUTHFUL CHARACTER OF ANGOLAN INTERIOR CITY OF NOVA LISBOA.)

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PAGE 02 LUANDA 00672 191934Z

TONE OF QUESTIONING INDICATES "PROVINCIA" CORRESPONDENT (LUIS RODRIGUES) MAY HAVE PRESSED MINISTER IN ORDER ELICIT

AUTONOMY RESPONSE.

3. COMMENT: IN SPITE BANNER TREATMENT REBELLO DE SOUSA'S
REMARK, PEOPLE HERE CERTAIN TO NOTE TWO POINTS: FIRST, HIS
PROMISING ONLY WHAT HE SAYS LAW ALREADY PROVIDES AND SECOND,
CURIOUS FORMULATION "PREROGATIVES OF AUTONOMY" NOT SIMPLY
"AUTONOMY."
PORTER

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